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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

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AND JOEL C. VANDERZEE

U.S. SERIAL NO: 09/738,089 GROUP: 2125

FILED: DECEMBER 15, 2000 EXAMINER: ALEXANDER J. KOSOWSKI

FOR: MAGNETICALLY OVERRIDDEN FLOW CONTROL DEVICE

La Crosse, Wisconsin
November 17, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

11/17/03 William O'Driscoll
Date William O'Driscoll

AMENDMENT B

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed June 17, 2003. A request for a two month extension of the term for response is submitted herewith effectively extending the term for response to November 17, 2003.

Please make the following changes in the application:

1. (currently amended) A flow control device comprising:

a housing;

a valve within the housing;

an actuator portion within the housing and operably connected to and positioning the valve;

a controller operably connected to the actuator and providing control signals thereto;

an external communications system operably connected to the controller and providing control signal input thereto; [~~and~~]

a magnetically actuated sensor operatively connected to the controller and providing a first signal thereto in response to the movement or presence of a magnetic field; and

a magnetic actuator external of the housing for generating the magnetic field.

2. (original) The flow control device of claim 1 wherein the controller positions the actuator in response to receiving the first signal from the sensor.

3. (original) The flow control device of claim 1 wherein the controller transmits a second signal on the communications system in response to receiving the first signal.

4. (original) The flow control device of claim 3 wherein the controller does not transmit the second signal if the controller determines that the controller has an identity.

5. (original) The flow control device of claim 4 wherein the magnetically actuated sensor is a Hall effect sensor.

6. (currently amended) A flow control device comprising:

a housing;

a valve within the housing;

controller circuitry operatively connected to the valve and controlling a position of the valve in response to a first condition; [~~and~~]

a magnetically actuated sensor operatively connected to the control circuitry for detecting a magnetic field and initiating a control mode sequence in the control circuitry; and

a magnetic actuator external of the housing for generating the magnetic field.

7. (original) The flow control device of claim 6 wherein the controller positions the valve in response to the control mode sequence being initiated.

8. (original) The flow control device of claim 6 further including communications circuitry in the control circuitry wherein the communications circuitry is operatively connected to a communications bus for two-way communications.

9. (original) The flow control device of claim 8 wherein the control circuitry sends a first signal to the communications circuitry in response to the initiation of the control mode sequence.

10. (original) The flow control device of claim 9 wherein the control circuitry does not transmit the first signal if the control circuitry determines that it has an identity.

11. (original) The device of claim 10 wherein the first condition is temperature, pressure or a command from a remote controller.

12. (withdrawn)

13. (withdrawn)

14. (withdrawn)

15. (withdrawn)

16. (withdrawn)

17. (withdrawn)

18. (currently amended) A flow control device comprising:

a housing;

an actuator located within the housing;

a controller operably connected to and controlling the actuator in response to a first condition; [~~and~~]

a magnetically actuated sensor operably connected to the controller and providing a signal to the controller in response to sensing the presence or absence of a magnetic field wherein the controller initiates a predetermined control sequence in response to the sensed presence of a magnetic field; and

a magnetic actuator external of the housing for generating the magnetic field.

19. (original) The flow control device of claim 18 wherein the magnetically actuated sensor is a hall effect sensor.

20. (original) The flow control device of claim 19 wherein the magnetically actuated sensor includes a magnetically moveable object.

21. (original) The flow control device of claim 20 wherein the controller includes circuitry operatively connected to and communicating with a communications bus and wherein the predetermined control sequence includes the transmission of a signal on the communications bus using the control circuitry.

22. (withdrawn)

23. (withdrawn)

24. (withdrawn)

25. (withdrawn)

26. (withdrawn)

27. (withdrawn)

28. (withdrawn)

29. (withdrawn)

30. (withdrawn)

31. (withdrawn)

32. (withdrawn)

33. (withdrawn)

34. (withdrawn)

35. (withdrawn)

36. (withdrawn)

37. (withdrawn)

38. (withdrawn)

39. (withdrawn)

40. (withdrawn)